

MOVING PICTURE EXPERTS GROUP DECODING APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR CAPTION DISPLAY

Background of the Invention

1. Field of the Invention

The present invention relates to a moving picture experts group (MPEG) decoder, and more particularly, to an MPEG decoder for caption display and a decoding method of the same.

2. Description of the Related Art

A video stream, which is decoded by an MPEG video decoder, has a structure in which a sequence header representing the start of a video sequence and a plurality of groups of pictures (GOPs) are consecutively arranged. Each GOP includes a GOP header and a plurality of pictures such as an I picture, a P picture, and a B picture.

- The GOP header includes a user data area. For example, a twenty-first horizontal line in a video stream can be used as the user data area. This user data area is usually used to store caption information.

Generally, a caption function denotes a function of displaying, for example, a Korean or English-language caption on a display screen. In conventional systems, in order to perform a caption function, user data is extracted from the header information of the video stream. The extracted user data is applied as caption data to a video encoder, and generated as an internal caption signal.

FIG. 1 is a schematic block diagram of a conventional MPEG decoder. Referring to FIG. 1, the conventional MPEG decoder includes an MPEG A/V demultiplexer 100, an audio digital-to-analog converter (DAC) 110, a video decoder 120, a header first in first out (FIFO) memory 130, a central processing unit (CPU) 140, and a video mixer 150. Also, the video encoder 160 is shown in FIG. 1 for convenience of explanation.

The MPEG A/V demultiplexer 100 demultiplexes an MPEG stream applied from an input terminal MIN into a digital audio stream and a video stream. The audio decoder 105 decodes the audio stream applied from the MPEG A/V demultiplexer 100. The audio DAC 110

converts the decoded digital audio stream applied from the MPEG A/V demultiplexer 100 into an analog signal and outputs the analog signal via an audio output terminal A_OUT.

The video decoder 120 decodes the video stream applied from the MPEG A/V demultiplexer 100 and extracts user data USER_DATA from the GOP header of the video stream. The header FIFO memory 130 stores the user data USER_DATA extracted from the GOP header. The CPU 140 receives the user data USER_DATA from the header FIFO memory 130 and outputs the user data USER_DATA as caption information if the user data is determined to be caption information. The video mixer 150 mixes a video signal decoded by the video decoder 120 with on-screen-display (OSD) data applied from an OSD controller (not shown) and outputs the result to the video encoder 160. The video encoder 160 encodes the output of the video mixer 150 and the user data USER_DATA, that is, caption data, output from the CPU 140, and outputs the result of encoding via a video output terminal V_OUT.

In the conventional MPEG decoder shown in FIG. 1, user data USER_DATA extracted from the header of an MPEG video stream is directly output to the video encoder 160 in order to perform a caption function. The caption function is therefore achieved by expensive encoders or televisions which are specially manufactured to include the caption function. Thus, in the prior art, ordinary televisions cannot perform a caption function.

Summary of the Invention

An object of the present invention is to provide a moving picture experts group (MPEG) decoder for caption display in which caption data is output using an on-screen-display (OSD) module, thus allowing ordinary televisions to perform a caption function.

Another object of the present invention is to provide a decoding method performed in the MPEG decoder.

Accordingly, to achieve the first object, the present invention provides a moving picture experts group (MPEG) decoder for demultiplexing an external-applied MPEG stream into an audio stream and a video stream and for decoding the video stream and outputting the decoded video stream on a screen. The device includes a video decoder for decoding the video stream and extracting user data from the header information of the video stream. A header memory stores the user data. A central processing unit (CPU) produces caption data by decoding the user

data and transforms the caption data into on-screen-display (OSD) object data. An OSD controller transforms the OSD object data into pixel data in response to a predetermined enable signal and outputs the pixel data. A video mixer mixes the pixel data with the decoded video data.

To achieve the second object, the present invention provides a MPEG decoding method. An MPEG video stream is decoded, and user data is extracted from the header of the MPEG video stream. Caption data is produced by decoding the user data. The caption data is transformed into OSD object data, and the OSD object data is stored. The OSD object data is transformed into pixel data if an OSD enable signal has been applied. The pixel data is mixed with video data, and the resultant data is provided as output.

Brief Description of the Drawings

The foregoing and other objects, features and advantages of the invention will be apparent from the following more particular description of preferred embodiments of the invention, as illustrated in the accompanying drawings in which like reference characters refer to the same parts throughout the different views. The drawings are not necessarily to scale, emphasis instead being placed upon illustrating the principles of the invention.

FIG. 1 is a schematic block diagram of a conventional moving picture experts group (MPEG) decoder.

FIG. 2 is a schematic block diagram of one embodiment of an MPEG decoder for caption display according to the present invention;

FIG. 3 is a detailed schematic block diagram of the on-screen-display (OSD) controller in the MPEG decoder shown in FIG. 2.

FIG. 4 is a flowchart illustrating one embodiment of an MPEG decoding method according to the invention which can be performed in the MPEG decoder shown in FIG. 2.

Description of Preferred Embodiments of the Invention

Referring to FIG. 2, one embodiment of a moving picture experts group (MPEG) decoder for caption display according to the present invention includes an MPEG audio/video (A/V) demultiplexer 200, an audio digital-to-analog converter (DAC) 210, an input buffer 220, a video

decoder 230, a header first in first out (FIFO) memory 260, a central processing unit (CPU) 270, an on-screen-display (OSD) controller 280, and a video mixer 250. FIG. 2 also shows a video encoder 290.

The MPEG A/V demultiplexer 200 receives an MPEG stream from an external source via an input terminal MIN and demultiplexes the received MPEG stream into a digital audio stream and a video stream. The MPEG stream can be applied from a data processor of an external device such as a compact disc player (CDP) or a digital versatile disc player (DVDP). Also, the MPEG stream is defined as a signal which can be applied to a hard disc or a compact disc when it is adapted to computers.

The audio decoder 205 decodes the audio stream applied from the MPEG A/V demultiplexer 200. The audio DAC 210 converts the decoded digital audio stream into an analog audio signal and outputs the converted analog audio signal via an audio output terminal A_OUT. The input buffer 220 buffers the video stream and outputs the buffered video stream to the video decoder 230. The video decoder 230 decodes the video stream buffered by the input buffer 220 and outputs the decoded result to the video mixer 250.

The video decoder 230 includes an MPEG stream decoder 232, an inverse quantizer 234, an inverse discrete cosine transformer (IDCT) 236, a frame memory 237, a motion compensator 238, and an adder 239. The video decoder 230 decodes, inversely quantizes, and inversely discrete cosine transforms (IDCT) the video bit stream, compensates for the motion of the video bit stream, and outputs the result to the video mixer 250. Also, the video decoder 230 extracts user data USER_DATA from the group of picture (GOP) header information of the video bit stream.

The header FIFO memory 260 stores the user data USER_DATA extracted by the video decoder 230. The CPU 270 decodes the user data USER_DATA output from the header FIFO memory 260 and produces caption data. The caption data is transformed into OSD object data OSD_OBJ and is stored in the OSD buffer 282 of the OSD controller 280. Here, the OSD object data is defined as data including information on the positions, sizes and colors of OSD characters to be displayed on a screen.

Also, the CPU 270 produces an OSD enable signal OSD_EN (not shown) for displaying caption data on a screen. Here, the OSD enable signal OSD_EN may use the start bit of the

OSD object data OSD_OBJ, or a special enable signal may be produced and output to the OSD processor 284. The CPU 270 can be a reduced instruction set computer (RISC) processor.

Sub A → The OSD controller 280 includes an OSD buffer 282 and an OSD processor 284. The OSD controller 280 transforms the OSD object data OSD_OBJ output from the CPU 270 into pixel data in response to the OSD enable signal OSD_EN and outputs the pixel data to the video mixer 250. The video mixer 250 mixes a video signal decoded by the video decoder 230 with the pixel data output from the OSD controller 280. The video encoder 230 encodes the data output from the video mixer 250 and outputs the encoded data via a video output terminal V_OUT. An audio signal output via the audio output terminal A_OUT and a video signal output via the video output terminal V_OUT are reproduced on a television monitor.

More specifically, in the video decoder 230 of the MPEG decoder shown in FIG. 2, the MPEG stream decoder 232 decodes a video stream received from the input buffer 220 and outputs a DCT coefficient DCT_CO and motion information MOT_INF. The motion information MOT_INF is information which can include a motion vector value for compensating for the motion of a video signal. The DCT coefficient DCT_CO is inversely quantized by the inverse quantizer 234, and the inversely-quantized result is IDC transformed by the IDCT 236.

The motion compensator 238 compensates for the motion between a present picture and a past picture which is stored in the frame memory 237, using the motion information MOT_INF vector output from the MPEG stream decoder 232. The adder 239 adds the compensated result of the motion compensator 238 to the output of the IDCT 236 and produces a decoded video signal. The video signal output from the adder 239 is stored as a past picture in the frame memory 237. It is used to compensate for the motion of a picture which is applied later.

As described above, the MPEG decoder shown in FIG. 2 extracts user data from the GOP header of an MPEG stream and decodes the user data. The decoded caption data is transformed into OSD data, and the OSD data is output via the OSD controller 280, such that a caption function is performed.

FIG. 3 illustrates an embodiment of the OSD controller 280 shown in FIG. 2. Referring to FIG. 3, the OSD controller 280 includes an OSD buffer 282 and an OSD processor 284. The OSD buffer 282 is usually installed in a memory such as a dynamic random access memory (DRAM). The OSD buffer 282 stores the OSD object data OSD_OBJ received from the CPU

270. The OSD object data OSD_OBJ can be considered as data transformed by caption information when a caption function is performed. However, when an ordinary function is performed, the OSD object data is considered as data for displaying ordinary OSD characters.

Sub C The OSD processor 284 reads the OSD object data from the OSD buffer 282, and transforms the OSD object data into pixel data. The OSD processor 284 includes a buffer interface unit 32, a text OSD (T_OSD) module 34, a bit map OSD (B_OSD) module 36, a text color loop-up table (T_CLUT) 35, a bit map color loop-up table (B_CLUT) 39, and an OSD mixer 37. The OSD processor 300 can be configured using one of T_OSD module 34 and B_OSD module 36. In this case, OSD mixer 37 is not used, but one look-up table of T_CLUT 35 and B_CLUT 39 is used. The buffer interface unit 32 in the OSD processor 284 receives the OSD object data OSD_OBJ from the OSD buffer 282 and transmits the same to the internal block of the OSD processor 284.

The T_OSD module 34, for displaying text information, receives the OSD object data OSD_DATA as text OSD information and transforms the text OSD information as pixel data. Also, the T_OSD module 34 includes a font look-up table for loading a bit map font. The B_OSD module 36 receives the OSD object data OSD_DATA as bit map OSD information and transforms the bit map OSD information as pixel data.

The T_CLUT 35 stores color information for outputting text OSD information, and B_CLUT 39 stores color information for outputting bit map OSD information. The OSD mixer 37 receives text pixel data from the T_OSD module 34 and bit map pixel data from the B_OSD module 36, mixes them, and outputs the result of mixing to the video mixer 250 via an output terminal OSD_OUT. As described above, the OSD object data OSD_OBJ transformed from caption data is transformed into pixel data by the T_OSD module 34.

FIG. 4 is a flowchart illustrating one embodiment of an MPEG decoding method for caption display according to the present invention. The MPEG decoding method includes steps 400 and 410 of decoding an MPEG video stream and of extracting user data from the header of the MPEG video stream, steps 420 and 430 of producing caption data by decoding the user data and of transforming the caption data into OSD object data, and steps 440, 460 and 470 of determining whether an OSD enable signal has been applied, of transforming the OSD data into

pixel data if the OSD enable signal has been applied, and of mixing the pixel data with video data and outputting the result.

The method of FIG. 4 will now be described in detail. The video decoder 230 of the MPEG decoder decodes an MPEG video stream in step 400. In this step, the MPEG stream decoder 232 decodes the MPEG video bit stream and produces a DCT coefficient DCT_CO and motion information MOT_INF. The DCT coefficient undergoes inverse quantization and IDCT processes. The resultant coefficient is added to motion-compensated video data, and the added result is applied to the video mixer 250. After the MPEG bit stream is decoded in step 400, the MPEG stream decoder 232 extracts user data USER_DATA from the header of the bit stream in step 410. Then, the user data USER_DATA is transmitted to the CPU 270 via the header FIFO memory 260. The CPU 270 decodes the user data USER_DATA and produces caption data in step 420.

In step 430, the CPU 270 transforms the received caption data into OSD object data OSD_OBJ and stores the OSD object data OSD_OBJ in the OSD buffer 282. Then, in step 440, a determination is made as to whether an OSD enable signal OSD_EN for displaying OSD data has been applied from the CPU 270.

If it is determined in step 440 that the OSD enable signal OSD_EN has been applied, the OSD processor 284 reads OSD object data from the OSD buffer 282 and transforms the OSD object data into pixel data, in step 460. That is, the T_OSD module 34 in the OSD processor 284 obtains pixel data corresponding to the OSD object data OSD_OBJ stored in the OSD buffer 282. On the other hand, if it is determined in step 440 that the OSD enable signal OSD_EN has not been applied, the operation of the MPEG decoder remains in a waiting condition in step 440.

When the OSD object data is transformed into pixel data in step 460, the OSD processor 284 outputs the pixel data to the video mixer 250. The video mixer 250 mixes the video data decoded by the MPEG video decoder 236 with the pixel data, in step 470. The output data of the video mixer 250 is encoded by the video encoder 290 and can be displayed on a television screen. Accordingly, conventional televisions can also perform a caption function by decoding an MPEG stream through the above-described processes.

According to the present invention, caption data is produced by extracting user information from the header of an MPEG video stream and decoding the user information, and the caption data is transformed into OSD data using OSD modules, so that ordinary televisions can perform a caption function. Also, the MPEG decoding method for caption display according

[illegible]

678	679	680	681	682	683	684	685	686	687
688	689	690	691	692	693	694	695	696	697
698	699	700	701	702	703	704	705	706	707
708	709	710	711	712	713	714	715	716	717
718	719	720	721	722	723	724	725	726	727
728	729	730	731	732	733	734	735	736	737
738	739	740	741	742	743	744	745	746	747
748	749	750	751	752	753	754	755	756	757
758	759	760	761	762	763	764	765	766	767
768	769	770	771	772	773	774	775	776	777
778	779	780	781	782	783	784	785	786	787
788	789	790	791	792	793	794	795	796	797
798	799	800	801	802	803	804	805	806	807
808	809	810	811	812	813	814	815	816	817
818	819	820	821	822	823	824	825	826	827
828	829	830	831	832	833	834	835	836	837
838	839	840	841	842	843	844	845	846	847
848	849	850	851	852	853	854	855	856	857
858	859	860	861	862	863	864	865	866	867
868	869	870	871	872	873	874	875	876	877
878	879	880	881	882	883	884	885	886	887
888	889	890	891	892	893	894	895	896	897
898	899	900	901	902	903	904	905	906	907
908	909	910	911	912	913	914	915	916	917
918	919	920	921	922	923	924	925	926	927
928	929	930	931	932	933	934	935	936	937
938	939	940	941	942	943	944	945	946	947
948	949	950	951	952	953	954	955	956	957
958	959	960	961	962	963	964	965	966	967
968	969	970	971	972	973	974	975	976	977
978	979	980	981	982	983	984	985	986	987
988	989	990	991	992	993	994	995	996	997
998	999	1000	1001	1002	1003	1004	1005	1006	1007
1008	1009	1010	1011	1012	1013	1014	1015	1016	1017
1018	1019	1020	1021	1022	1023	1024	1025	1026	1027
1028	1029	1030	1031	1032	1033	1034	1035	1036	1037
1038	1039	1040	1041	1042	1043	1044	1045	1046	1047
1048	1049	1050	1051	1052	1053	1054	1055	1056	1057
1058	1059	1060	1061	1062	1063	1064	1065	1066	1067
1068	1069	1070	1071	1072	1073	1074	1075	1076	1077
1078	1079	1080	1081	1082	1083	1084	1085	1086	1087
1088	1089	1090	1091	1092	1093	1094	1095	1096	1097
1098	1099	1100	1101	1102	1103	1104	1105	1106	1107
1108	1109	1110	1111	1112	1113	1114	1115	1116	1117
1118	1119	1120	1121	1122	1123	1124	1125	1126	1127
1128	1129	1130	1131	1132	1133	1134	1135	1136	1137
1138	1139	1140	1141	11					

[illegible]